Welcome

We are now halfway through 2021 and countries are continuing to focus on dealing with COVID-19 outbreaks within their nations. Many countries have successfully implemented fast acting vaccination programs to attempt to handle the increase in cases daily.

However, the World Health Organisation has warned that in order to defeat the virus the whole world must be committed to ensuring access to vaccines for all nations in particular LMIC regions. Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus expressed “Vaccine equity is the challenge of our time, and we are failing.”

The GHSN Board of Directors have endorsed and signed the WHO Vaccine Equity Declaration and encourage our members to also pledge their support to this vital cause.

Our Mission

Our mission is to create an international community of academics, scientists and policy-makers who seek to share their knowledge and research on global health security.

We encourage free thinking and support those that wish to make a meaningful impact to improve the health and well-being of all people globally.

The GHSN community is an opportunity to engage with members, sharing their ideas through the Association and at GHSN events around the world.
In May this year, the Australian Government announced during the 2021 Federal Budget that Australia’s International borders would remain closed until at least mid-2022. These revised timelines were contingent on numerous elements, in particular the vaccine roll-out, which has sadly made holding the GHS 2022 conference in Sydney in June no longer viable.

The GHS committee is committed to hosting this event in person and believe that this conference is essential given the current pandemic.

For this reason, the GHS committee have decided to relocate the conference overseas and are thrilled to announce that GHS2022 will now take place at the Suntec Convention and Exhibition Centre in Singapore from 28 June – 1 July 2022.

We are extremely grateful that Singapore have been very enthusiastic to be the host of the next GHS conference. By moving the conference to Singapore, we can ensure that the event is face to face (rather than online) and will enable us to ensure opportunities for delegates from all regions around the world (especially those from LMIC regions) to attend and contribute to the conversation on health security.

Visit www.ghsconf.com to find out more!

We look forward to hosting you again in Singapore in 2022!
The Global Health Security Innovation Week 2021 is the world's first conference focused on bringing together the health security and technology innovation communities to define and communicate today's most pressing challenges in preventing, predicting, detecting, and responding to global health security threats.

GHS Innovation 2021 will emphasize the importance of locally driven innovation in emerging ecosystems (LMICs) and will promote equitable access to technologies and resources for ensuring health security in all communities. Together participants will create a roadmap and a call to action for innovators to solve the most pressing current and future challenges in global health security.

**Lead Organizers**

**TEXGHS** (Austin, Texas, USA); TEXGHS is a consortium between academia, public sector, and private sector partners to coordinate efforts to support companies working towards pandemic preparedness and response in Texas. Organized by the Austin Technology Incubator at The University of Texas at Austin, TEXGHS is leading the creation and long-term growth of a health security innovation ecosystem that supports innovators and innovations fighting COVID-19 and future pandemics.

**Global Health Security Network** (Sydney, Australia); The Global Health Security Network (GHSN) Limited is a new multidisciplinary professional association dedicated to facilitating evidence-informed policy for the detection, prevention and control of infectious disease threats, irrespective of origin or source.

**Agenda**

GHS Innovation Week 2021 will be organized around the themes of preparation, response, cooperation, and ultimately recovery from health security threats:

- September 27th: **PREPARE**
- September 28th: **RESPOND**
- September 29th: **COORDINATE**; GHS Innovation 2021 Pitch Competition
- September 30th: **RECOVER**

Visit [www.ghsn.org](http://www.ghsn.org) to find out more!
# Upcoming Global Health Meetings

## JULY 2021

- **Hot Topics in Infection and Immunity in Children**  
  1-3 July 2021  
  *Oxford, UK*

- **27th International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related Viruses**  
  6-9 July 2021  
  *Virtual*

- **ISQua’s 37th International Conference**  
  8-11 July 2021  
  *Virtual, Italy*

- **European Congress of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases 2021**  
  9-12 July 2021  
  *Vienna, Austria*

- **The Microbial Pathogenesis Conference: Mechanisms of Infectious Disease**  
  13-15 July 2021  
  *Virtual*

## AUGUST 2021

- **7th International Conference on Public Health 2021**  
  4-5 August 2021  
  *Online*

- **GHC 2021: Seeds for Change**  
  5-9 August 2021  
  *Perth, Australia*

- **20th International Congress on Tropical Medicine & Malaria**  
  16-21 August 2021  
  *Bangkok, Thailand*

- **3rd European Congress on Vaccines R&D & Vaccination**  
  19-20 August 2021  
  *Online*

- **Physical and Quantitative Approaches to Overcome Antibiotic Resistance**  
  21-25 August 2021  
  *Stockholm, Sweden*

## SEPTEMBER 2021

- **World Congress of Epidemiology**  
  3-6 September 2021  
  *Melbourne, Australia*

- **Global Meeting on Public Health & Health Care**  
  9 September 2021  
  *Online*

- **13th International Symposium on Antimicrobial Agents & Resistance**  
  9-10 September 2021  
  *Remote*

- **Zoonoses Conference**  
  10-11 September 2021  
  *Gold Coast, Australia*

- **BACCN Conference 2021**  
  13-14 September 2021  
  *Virtual*

- **Virus Genomics and Evolution**  
  13-15 September 2021  
  *Virtual, UK*

- **EMBO Workshop – Tuberculosis 2021**  
  13-17 September 2021  
  *Paris, France*
# Upcoming Global Health Meetings

## JULY 2021

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| **STI & HIV 2021 World Congress** | 14-17 July 2021  
*Amsterdam, Netherlands* |
| **Disease Prevention & Control Summit** | 20-21 July 2021  
*Virtual* |

## AUGUST 2021

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| **13th International Conference on Microbiology, Antibiotics and Public Health** | 25-26 August 2021  
*Brussels, Belgium* |

## SEPTEMBER 2021

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| **13th International Meeting on Microbial Epidemiological Markers** | 14-17 September 2021  
*Bath, UK* |
| **Population Health Congress** | 21-23 September 2021  
*Online, Australia* |
| **Australian Public Health Conference 2021** | 23-24 September 2021  
*Hybrid, Australia* |
| **Infection Prevention 2021** | 27-29 September 2021  
*Liverpool, UK* |
| **GHS Innovation Week 2021** | 27-30 September 2021  
*Remote* |
| **Infectious Diseases Week 2021** | 29 Sept – 3 Oct 2021  
*Virtual* |
Australia Covid – Outbreaks emerge across country in ‘new phase’ of pandemic.

Australia’s Prime Minister Scott Morrison has met national leaders for emergency talks on how to tackle a spike in Covid-19 infections. An outbreak in Sydney linked to the highly contagious Delta variant has grown to 128 cases. Cases have also been recorded in the Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australia. Officials say it is a "critical time". Australia has kept case numbers low with border closures and lockdowns.

Reports say the emergency meeting considered measures such as mandatory vaccinations for care home workers and new quarantine rules. This is the first time in months that cases have emerged in multiple parts of the country at the same time. "I think we’re entering a new phase of this pandemic, with the more contagious Delta strain," Treasurer Josh Frydenberg told ABC News ahead of the meeting of the Covid-19 response committee. The escalation in Covid infections has prompted lockdowns in NSW, WA, Qld and NT, as well as restrictions across all other states.

Credit: BBC News

COVID: Vaccines running out in poorer nations, WHO says.

A large number of poorer countries receiving Covid-19 vaccines through a global sharing scheme do not have enough doses to continue programmes, the World Health Organization has said.

WHO senior adviser Dr Bruce Aylward said the Covax programme had delivered 90 million doses to 131 countries. But he said this was nowhere near enough to protect populations from a virus still spreading worldwide. The shortages come as some nations in Africa see a third wave of infections.

On Monday, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa called for an end to vaccine hoarding by wealthier countries as his government scrambled to curb a steep rise in cases. On a continental level, only 40 million doses have been administered so far in Africa - less than 2% of the population, Mr Ramaphosa said. To address this, he said his government was working with Covax to create a regional hub to produce more vaccines in South Africa. Covax was created last year to ensure Covid-19 doses were made available around the world, with richer countries subsidising costs for poorer nations.

Credit: BBC News

Hospitals treat COVID-19 patients in corridors as Indonesia nears 'catastrophe'

Indonesia’s COVID-19 surge is on the edge of a "catastrophe" as the more infectious Delta variant dominates transmission and chokes hospitals in Southeast Asia’s worst epidemic, the Red Cross said. Indonesia has reported record daily COVID-19 infections of more than 20,000 in recent days.

Credit: SBS News
Fiji battles deadly second wave of COVID-19

At the Qauia settlement, a 2000-strong community near Fiji's capital of Suva, police stand guard to ensure no one other than health workers come in - or out - of an area that has become a hotspot of COVID-19 infections.

Credit: SBS News

Singapore’s COVID19 plan

It has been more than a year since the World Health Organization (WHO) termed Covid-19 as a pandemic, and many experts are still saying that this virus is not going away anytime soon. Even though because of vaccines' availability, there are hopes to put an end to the pandemic, Singapore is now preparing a strategy to live the virus.

The Southeast Asian country will prepare Singaporeans to deal with SARS-CoV-2 on a daily basis, and residents will be free to work, travel and shop without being subjected to quarantines or lockdowns, even if the virus is around. According to the three co-chairmen of the government's multi-ministerial task force on Covid-19 that presented plans for Singapore to adopt a new normal, Covid-19 will be treated like other endemic diseases such as the common flu.

In an article published on 24 June, Singaporean Trade and Industry Minister Gan Kim Yong, Finance Minister Lawrence Wong, and Health Minister Ong Ye Kung stated that the government’s priority for the next several months would be to prepare Singapore to live with Covid-19 as a recurring and controllable disease. In an opinion piece on The Straits Times, they stated that people are continuously asking about the end of this health crisis. "The bad news is that Covid-19 may never go away. The good news is that it is possible to live normally with it in our midst. This means Covid-19 will very likely become endemic,” the ministers said.

Credit: Swarajya News

Mixing Covid jabs has good immune response, study finds.

A mix-and-match approach to Covid vaccines - using different brands for first and second doses - appears to give good protection against the pandemic virus, a UK study has found.

Credit: BBC News

Make sure you visit ghsn.org/news for latest news!
Whilst preparing for next year's Global Health Security Conference 2022, the GHSN Board of Directors are considering how best we can serve our members and our community.

We encourage all GHSN members and GHS2019 delegates to submit any suggestions or ideas as to what you would like to see from the Global Health Security Network.

All suggestions are welcome and will be considered!

Together we can build GHSN into an association fit for all!

Email Suggestions to:

director@ghsn.org

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